## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 OMB-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 /083 W

-----121309Z 042146 /44

R 121235Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6638

CONFIDENTIAL ALGIERS 1493

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, AG, XH

SUBJECT: HYDRAULICS MINISTER FIRES EASTERN EUROPEAN TECHNICIANS

1. CZECH AMBASSADOR HERE HAS CONFIRMED RUMOR THAT HAD BEEN MAKING ROUNDS THAT NEWLY APPOINTED HYDRAULICS MINISTER BENCHERIF HAS DISPENSED WITH SERVICES OF SOVIET, HUNGARIAN AND BULGARIAN TECHNICIANS ASSIGNED TO HIS MINISTRY UNDER COOPERATION AGREEMENTS. ACCORDING TO CZECH, THREE HUNGARIANS DEFINITELY OUT AS WELL AS SMALL NUNBER OF BULGARIANS. LARGEST GROUP GIVEN WALKING PAPERS WAS SOVIETS, BUT CZECH DID NOT HAVE FIGURE. OTHER REPORTS HAD PUT NUMBER OF SOVIETS AT 30. NOT CLEAR AT THIS TIME IF BENCHERIF HAS MADE CLEAN SWEEP OF EASTERN EUROPEANS FROM HIS MINISTRY OR IF OTHERS REMAIN.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST INSTANCE OF FIRING OF EASTERN EUROPEAN TECHNICIANS IN RECENT MEMORY. BENCHERIF KNOWN TO BE LESS THAN INFATUATED WITH SOCIALIST WAY OF DOING THINGS, AND THIS, COMBINED WITH POOR PERFORMANCE OF HYDRAULICS MINISTRY, MAY
HAVE LED TO OUSTER OF TECHNICIANS. MINISTRY, WE CONFIDENTIAL

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UNDERSTAND, IN STATE OF FLUX, AND ALGERIANS TOO ARE NOT IMMUNE TO BENCHERIF'S NEW BROOM.LYNE

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## Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a

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Subject: HYDRAULICS MINISTER FIRES EASTERN EUROPEAN TECHNICIANS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, XH, HU, UR, (BENCHERIF, AHMED)

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